

Message Text

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ORIGIN AEC-11

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DRAFTED BY USAEC.DIP:DHOYLE

APPROVED BY SCI:HDBREWSTER

USAEC:DIP:AFRIEDMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 112251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT CONTRACTS

REF: TOKYO 6943

1. MITSUI INFORMATION APPARENTLY BASED ON MISUNDERSTANDING OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN AEC STAFF AND NUS, CONSULTANTS FOR BOTH TOHOKU AND SHUBU. AN INTERNAL, TEMPORARY HOLD HAD BEEN PLACED ON FURTHER DISTRIBUTION OF BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC ENRICHMENT CONTRACTS WHILE AEC REVIEWED ACTUAL CONTRACTING POSITION VIS-A-VIS "MAXIMUM AVAILABLE CAPABILITY" LIMITATION ON CONTRACTING CONTAINED IN ENRICHMENT SERVICES CRITERIA. FOR THIS REASON, AEC STAFF BRIEFLY ANTICIPATED POSSIBLE INABILITY DELIVER SIGNATURE VERSION OF SHUBU CONTRACTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORIGINALLY AGREED SCHEDULE, AND, IN COURSE TELEPHONE DISCUSSION OF TOHOKU CONTRACT, SO ADVISED NUS, APPARENTLY WHILE TOHOKU REPS PRESENT. FOREGOING REVIEW NOW COMPLETED AND CONTRACT DISTRIBUTION RESUMED- BOTH SHUBU AND TOHOKU CONTRACTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON ORIGINAL SCHEDULE-

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2. IN VIEW FOREGOING LIMITATION, AEC WILL OF COURSE CAREFUL-

LY CONTINUE TO MONITOR ITS ENRICHMENT CONTRACT COMMITMENTS TO ASSURE THAT ITS ENRICHMENT CAPABILITY NOT EXCEEDED' NO DIFFICULTY ANTICIPATED WITH RESPECT TO PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS, EITHER FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC, NEEDING ADDITIONAL DELIVERIES OF ENRICHED URANIUM PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1982, AND, THUS, REQUIRED TO EXECUTE LONG-TERM CONTRACTS BY JUNE 30, 1974.

3. WITH REGARD EPDC CONTRACT, THERE HAS BEEN A DELAY IN OBTAINING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF CONTRACTING PROCEDURE DEVELOPED BY AEC STAFF ON AD REFERENDUM BASIS. HOPEFUL THAT THIS CAN BE CLEARED IN WEEK OR TEN DAYS, BUT IN MEAN-TIME NOT IN POSITION TO FORWARD SIGNATURE VERSION OF CONTRACT. RE JAPCO CONTRACT, SINCE NO FORMAL INDICATION HTGR INVOLVED, EXPECT TO PREPARE AND FORWARD SIGNATURE VERSION PROMPTLY. BROWN

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